

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) today asked, “Why is Speaker Pelosi scared of a true vote on health care?”

Bachus today voted for a resolution introduced by Rep. Parker Griffith (AL-5) that would have required a recorded House vote on the Senate health care bill that includes the Cornhusker Kickback, the Louisiana Purchase, Gator Aid, and funding for abortion and benefits for illegal immigrants. However, the Democrat majority voted on a strict party line to defeat the procedural measure to bring sunshine to the health care vote.

“Speaker Pelosi and liberal Democrats are not listening to the majority of Americans who strongly oppose their government takeover of health care. They know their bill will be defeated if there is a clean vote, so they are trying to use every legislative gimmick in the book to hide their true intentions. They can’t fool the American people and I applaud Congressman Griffith for forcing a vote to expose their scheme,” said Congressman Bachus.

Bachus has opposed a government takeover of health care since it was first proposed by President Obama. He said additional evidence of the bill’s harmful effect on Alabama was provided by Governor Bob Riley in a letter today.

“Governor Riley correctly pointed out that the health care takeover will increase Medicaid costs for Alabama at a time when the state budget is already challenged, as well as make health insurance premiums more expensive for businesses and families across our state. It will also result in fewer doctors available to treat Medicaid patients. It’s the wrong medicine for Alabama and for the American people,” Bachus said.

Bachus has urged Members of Congress to start from scratch and work together on a set of common sense reforms including making health insurance more affordable, covering pre-existing conditions, allowing insurance to be purchased across state lines, tort reform, and reducing waste and fraud.

